

**North Carolina Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes  
January 7, 2005**

**Members Present:** Mary Bethel, Lucy Dorsey, Dan Fox, Rich Greb, Kaye Holder, Ellen Holliman, Diann Irwin, Bill Jones, Libby Jones, Phyllis Kennedy, Jeff McLoud, Frank Read, Sheila Wall-Hill, Linner Ward Griffin, Laura White, Carolyn Wiser,

**Staff to Council:** Judy Bright, Darlene Creech, Rachel Holley, Lisa Jackson, Susan Robinson

**Others:** Kent Earnhardt, Chris Rakes

**Handouts**

1. *Member Address Update*
2. *Member Attendance Update*
3. *Agenda*
4. *11-05-04 Minutes*
5. *Reimbursement Form*
6. *DHHS Directive Number III-7*
7. *Memo: Expanded CTSP Funding Guidelines for Area/County Programs for UCR and Non-UCR Funds*
8. *Announcement of new staff to Division: Kay Johnson*
9. *Communication Bulletin #029*
10. *Communication Bulletin #030*
11. *Memo: Corporate Practice of Medicine*
12. *NC Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Implementation Report for SFY 03-04*
13. *Data packet: data reported with the MHSBG Report*
14. *The President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health (excerpt)*

**Call to Order/Introductions**

Libby Jones welcomed members. Introductions of members, staff and visitors were made. The handouts within the member packets were reviewed.

The draft minutes of the November 5, 2004 meeting were reviewed. Corrections included changing the spelling of Rich Greb's name on the bottom of page 2 and 3 from Grub to Greb; noting that Frank Read was present; changing the date from 11-11-04 to 11-05-04 to reflect the actual date of the meeting; and deleting one 'c' from Jeff McLoud's name. With changes noted, the minutes were approved.

Bill Jones complimented Dan Fox, Jeff McLoud, Carolyn Wiser and Mary Reca Todd for their perfect attendance.

Jeff McLoud complimented Mike Moseley, noting that he had been honored as Lenoir County Citizen of the Year.

## **New Business**

### **1. Election of Vice-Chair**

The motion to accept Jeff McLoud as Vice-Chair was made by Mary Bethel, seconded by Lucy Dorsey. Jeff McLoud was approved, unanimously, as Vice-Chair for the Council.

### **2. Approval of Membership Recommendations**

The following nominees were approved for recommendation to the Secretary for Council Membership:

Representing a State Agency: Esther High, Division DSS

Representing Families of Children with SED: Ed Seavey

Representing Parents of Children with SED: Kelly Jones

Representing Adult Consumers w/Mental Illness: Kent Earnhardt, Patricia Ann Bauer or Loretta King

Representing Providers of Local Services for Children and Adults (LME): waiting for recommendation from Council on Community Programs.

Council reminded Bright that an LME staff representing Adults was needed as a recommendation since Lucy Dorsey represents Children.

Representing GACPD: Jeff McLoud volunteered to secure a recommendation.

Representing Families United: Pat Soloman

Representing NC MH Consumers' Organization, Inc.: Tisha O'Neal Gamboa

Members requested that Yolanda Tant and Beverly Varner be held for review for potential vacancy of the Representative of Families of Adults with Mental Illness category.

### **3. Approval of Executive Committee Composition & Function**

The Executive Committee composition and function were discussed. By-laws allow for the Chair, Vice-Chair, Chair of the Adult Committee and Chair of the Child Committee to compose the Executive Committee. There was discussion of the need to have an adult and child committee.

Members expressed concerns about the travel involved if sub-committee meetings were held the month following the Council meeting. Susan Robinson suggested the use of conference calls. She also indicated support for members to re-establish the two sub-committees to more effectively address Block Grant reviews and to provide more effective input into the design of the Plan. McLoud moved that an Executive Committee be established. Lucy Dorsey seconded. All members indicated support for the Executive Committee with sub-committee meetings being held the month that the Council does not meet. Sub-committee Chairs were Sheila Wall-Hill, Child Committee (with assistance from Lucy Dorsey)

and Jeff McCloud, Adult Committee. (Rich Greb was suggested but when contacted was unable to serve as Chair, but was interested in participating.) It was determined that agendas for sub-committees be sent to all members. Rachel Holley will be the staff that assists members in setting up meetings/conference calls and duplicating materials. ([Rachel.Holley@ncmail.net](mailto:Rachel.Holley@ncmail.net) or 919-715-2780). Lisa Jackson will be the staff to the Adult Sub-Committee ([Lisa.Jackson@ncmail.net](mailto:Lisa.Jackson@ncmail.net) or 919-715-2774). Susan Robinson will be staff to the Child Sub-Committee ([Susan.Robinson@ncmail.net](mailto:Susan.Robinson@ncmail.net)).

#### **4. Proposed Meeting Dates for 2005**

Meeting dates for full Council meetings will be the first Friday of each month: March 4, May 6, July 7\*, September 9\*, and November 4.

\*Since the first Friday of July and September proceed a holiday weekend, it was decided to hold the Council meeting on July 7 and September 9.

#### **5. Proposed Agenda Topics for Meetings**

Recalling information from past meetings when specific topics for the Agenda were discussed, Lisa Jackson proposed the following agenda topics:

- Update on Recovery: Model for children
- Cross-walking the MH Block Grant with the Child Plan
- Crisis Services for children and adults
- Training in person centered planning and cross-walking this training with child and family team training

Members approved the above topics after discussion. Others requested by members included:

- System of Care
- Peer Support
- Peer Support Drop-In Centers
- Department updates
- LME updates: status of LME development
- DMA changes due to reform
- Service Definitions (Sheila Wall-Hill, Libby Jones, and Susan Robinson suggested this as an initial topic.)

It was also suggested that Bob Kurtz and Kay Johnson be future speakers. Lisa Jackson volunteered to talk with both Division staff members to determine when they would be able to speak to the Council. At the close of the meeting, Chris Rakes, ex-officio member, requested that the feasibility of closing Dix campus be a topic.

#### **6. Mental Health Month (May)**

Libby Jones urged members to be more active in advocacy efforts, supporting legislation that supports services for individuals having mental illness and for children with serious emotional disturbances. She also requested that members participate in Mental Health Month. Bill Jones

asked what SAMHSA was doing for this event. Susan Robinson suggested that the Council invite several advocacy agencies to talk about their own agency's role in May events. Darlene Creech suggested contacting John Tote, Mental Health Association. Mary Bethel suggested that the State agencies, represented on the Council, distribute materials gathered by the Council members.

## **News and Updates**

### **1. Report: Children's Services**

Susan Robinson reported on the following:

- The Division will be holding regional trainings for providers on the new proposed Medicaid service definitions January 27<sup>th</sup> in Charlotte and January 31<sup>st</sup> in Raleigh. Additional focused service definition training will occur in February, March and April. Notification will be forthcoming and on the Division's web site.
- The Child Plan Implementation Team is working on guidance on crisis services, working with high-risk youth, residential service rules and definitions and service definition training preparation. Libby Jones is one of three parent representatives on this team.
- \$1.6 million of the Child MH Trust Fund was being made available through an RFA to LMEs in coordination with community providers to establish or extend capacity for intensive in-home services, respite and crisis services for children and their families. This RFA will be distributed soon and on the Division's web site.
- The Legislative Oversight Committee is considering legislation that promotes establishing a System of Care framework for children across child-serving agencies. Libby will discuss further from families' perspective.

### **2. Report: Adult Services**

Lisa Jackson reported on the following:

- There were in excess of 750 participants attending the 2004 Case Manager's Conference held in November.
- There are 50 ACTT Teams in North Carolina charged with the responsibility of keeping individuals out of the hospitals. They are in the process of changing their current models to more closely reflect best practice models. The Science to Service Project will work with three or four ACTT Teams to develop model sites for other Teams to visit and replicate.
- She provided an update on PATH, Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness. Individuals who have experienced homelessness receive training so that they are able to assist others.
- In state hospitals the use of beds in the Long Term Care Adult units and in the Geriatric units is down. Mary Bethel added that the

Special Care Center received individuals in Skilled Nursing beds from Cherry. She also discussed the opening of Glencare, located in Warsaw, a 20 bed facility for individuals needing Skilled Nursing having mental health challenges.

- From the Justice Innovations Team, Bob Kurtz had a grant from the Governors Crime Committee. Money is to be used to train police departments/police officers on how to appropriately care for individuals with mental illness who are experiencing a crisis. The crisis intervention training is based upon training occurring in Memphis, Tennessee. After the pilot project ends, the curriculum will be free to any police department through Wake Technical College. The pilot project is based in Wake County. Members requested that Bob Kurtz ([Bob.Kurtz@ncmail.net](mailto:Bob.Kurtz@ncmail.net)) be invited to speak at a Council meeting.
- Lisa Jackson and Bonnie Morell are working with VR to explore ways that long term follow-up can be provided for individuals receiving supported employment. The Division and VR have applied for a grant to establish three sites in North Carolina to pay for staff positions to begin evidence-based supported employment model programs.

### **3. Changes within the Division**

Bright reported that Mike Hennike had been named interim Chief of State Operated Services. Darlene Creech was introduced as the new Team Leader for Division Affairs. Creech announced that Bright was retiring as of February 1, 2005.

### **4. President's New Freedom Initiative**

Jones provided a handout on *The President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health*. A discussion followed on Goal 4: Early Mental Health Screening, Assessment, and Referral to Services Are Common Practices. Bright reported that Jones had ordered copies of the report for all members.

### **5. November Atlanta Review**

Rich Greb, former Chair of the Council, reported on the November review of the Block Grants. The review was held in Atlanta, Georgia. Greb and Bonnie Morell attended for the Division. Greb reported that this was a peer review, a SAMHSA event. The reviewing committee asks questions of State representatives and comments on the plan. At the summary, the committee recommends acceptance or refusal of the Plan submitted in September of each year. North Carolina received positive comments and did well during the review process. Recommendation was for acceptance of the Plan.

## **Legislation Impacting Mental Health**

Jeff McLoud announced that the North Carolina Mental Health Consumer Organization now had a web site ([ncmhcosupport.org](http://ncmhcosupport.org)). Kent Earnhardt announced that it was a link on the Council's web page.

McLoud also informed members of the series of articles in the *Charlotte Observer* being written about children's group homes.

Libby Jones announced that the Legislative Oversight Committee would be proposing legislation that the System of Care model be adopted for all agencies providing services to children.

Chris Rakes raised concerns about the downsizing and relocation of Dix. Laura White volunteered to get a speaker to talk to the Council about the plans.

There being no further business, Jeff McLoud made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Lucy Dorsey.